

EC-10576. A communication from the Acting Chief of the Office of Regulations and Administrative Law, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Drawbridge Regulations; Tickfaw River, LA (CDG08-00-019)" (RIN2115-AE47 (2000-0044)) received on September 5, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-10577. A communication from the Acting Chief of the Office of Regulations and Administrative Law, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Drawbridge Regulations; Red River, LA (CDG08-00-020)" (RIN2115-AE47 (2000-0045)) received on September 5, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-10578. A communication from the Acting Chief of the Office of Regulations and Administrative Law, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fire Protection Measures for Towing Vessels (USCG-1998-4445)" (RIN2115-AF66 (2000-0001)) received on September 5, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-10579. A communication from the Associate Bureau Chief, Wireless Telecommunications, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of the Commission's Rules to Permit Flexible Service Offerings in the Commercial Mobile Radio Services" (WT Docket No. 96-6; FCC 00-246) received on September 5, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-10580. A communication from the Congressional Budget Office, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Sequestration Update Report for Fiscal Year 2001; referred jointly, pursuant to the order of January 30, 1975 as modified by the order of April 11, 1986, to the Committees on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry; Armed Services; Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs; Commerce, Science, and Transportation; Energy and Natural Resources; Environment and Public Works; Finance; Foreign Relations; Governmental Affairs; Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions; the Judiciary; Small Business; Veterans' Affairs; Indian Affairs; Intelligence; Appropriations; and the Budget.

## REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. MCCAIN, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 1510: A bill to revise the laws of the United States appertaining to United States cruise vessels, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 106-396).

By Mr. SPECTER, from the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and an amendment to the title:

S. 1810: A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify and improve veterans' claims and appellate procedures (Rept. No. 106-397).

By Mr. SPECTER, from the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, without amendment:

S. 3011: An original bill to increase, effective as of December 1, 2000, the rates of compensation for veterans with service-con-

nected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for the survivors of certain disabled veterans (Rept. No. 106-398).

## EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of committee were submitted on September 5, 2000:

By Mr. HELMS, from the Committee on Foreign Relations:

Treaty Doc. 106-8. Convention (No. 176) Concerning Safety and Health in Mines (Exec. Report No. 106-16).

### TEXT OF THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED RESOLUTION OF ADVICE AND CONSENT:

*Resolved, (two thirds of the Senators present concurring therein), That the Senate advise and consent to the ratification of Convention (No. 176) Concerning Safety and Health in Mines, Adopted by the International Labor Conference at its 82nd Session in Geneva on June 22, 1995 (Treaty Doc. 106-8) (hereinafter, "The Convention"), subject to the understandings of subsection (a), the declarations of subsection (b) and the provisos of subsection (c).*

(a) UNDERSTANDINGS.—The Senate's advice and consent is subject to the following understandings, which shall be included in the instrument of ratification:

(1) ARTICLE 12.—The United States understands that Article 12 does not mean that the employer in charge shall always be held responsible for the acts of an independent contractor.

(2) ARTICLE 13.—The United States understands that Article 13 neither alters nor abrogates any requirement, mandated by domestic statute, that a miner or a miner's representative must sign an inspection notice, or that a copy of a written inspection notice must be provided to the mine operator no later than the time of inspection.

(b) DECLARATIONS.—The Senate's advice and consent is subject to the following declarations, which shall be binding on the President:

(1) NOT SELF-EXECUTING.—The United States understands that the Convention is not self-executing.

(2) TREATY INTERPRETATION.—The Senate affirms the applicability to all treaties of the constitutionally based principles of treaty interpretation set forth in Condition (1) of the resolution of ratification of the INF Treaty, approved by the Senate on May 27, 1988, and Condition (8) of the resolution of ratification of the Document Agreed Among the State Parties to the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe, approved by the Senate on May 14, 1997.

(c) PROVISOS.—The advice and consent of the Senate is subject to the following provisos:

(1) REPORT.—One year after the date the Convention enters into force for the United States, and annually for five years thereafter, the Secretary of Labor, after consultation with the Secretary of State, shall provide a report to the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate setting forth the following:

(i) a listing of parties which have excluded mines from the Convention's application pursuant to Article 2(a), a description of the excluded mines, an explanation of the reasons for the exclusions, and an indication of whether the party plans or has taken steps to progressively cover all mines, as set forth in Article 2(b);

(ii) a listing of countries which are or have become parties to the Convention and corresponding dates; and

(iii) an assessment of the relative costs or competitive benefits realized during the reporting period, if any, by United States mine operators as a result of United States ratification of the Convention.

(2) SUPREMACY OF THE CONSTITUTION.—Nothing in the Convention requires or authorizes legislation or other action by the United States of America that is prohibited by the Constitution of the United States as interpreted by the United States.

Treaty Doc. 106-14. Food Aid Convention 1999 (Exec. Rept. 106-17).

### TEXT OF THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED RESOLUTION OF ADVICE AND CONSENT:

*Resolved, (two thirds of the Senators present concurring therein), That the Senate advise and consent to the ratification of the Food Aid Convention, 1999, which was open for signature at the United Nations Headquarters, New York, from May 1 through June 30, 1999, and signed by the United States on June 16, 1999 (Treaty Doc. 106-14), referred to in this resolution of ratification as "The Convention," subject to the declarations of subsection (a) and the proviso of subsection (b).*

(a) DECLARATIONS.—The advice and consent of the Senate is subject to the following declarations:

(1) NO DIVERSION.—United States contributions pursuant to this Convention shall not be diverted to government troops or security forces in countries which have been designated as state sponsors of terrorism by the Secretary of State.

(2) PRIVATE VOLUNTARY ORGANIZATIONS.—To the maximum feasible extent, distribution of United States contributions under this Convention should be accomplished through private voluntary organizations.

(3) TREATY INTERPRETATION.—The Senate affirms the applicability to all treaties of the constitutionally based principles of treaty interpretation set forth in Condition (1) of the resolution of ratification of the INF Treaty, approved by the Senate on May 27, 1988, and Condition (8) of the resolution of ratification of the Document Agreed Among the State Parties to the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe, approved by the Senate on May 14, 1997.

(b) PROVISIO.—The advice and consent of the Senate is subject to the following provisos:

(1) SUPREMACY OF THE CONSTITUTION.—Nothing in the Convention requires or authorizes legislation or other action by the United States of America that is prohibited by the Constitution of the United States as interpreted by the United States.

Treaty Doc. 105-48. Inter-American Convention on Sea Turtles (Exec. Rept. 106-18).

### TEXT OF THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED RESOLUTION OF ADVICE AND CONSENT:

*Resolved, (two thirds of the Senators present concurring therein), That the Senate advise and consent to the ratification of the Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles, With Annexes, done at Caracas, Venezuela, on December 1, 1996 (Treaty Doc. 105-48), which was signed by the United States, subject to ratification, on December 13, 1996, referred to in this resolution of ratification as "The Convention," subject to the understandings of subsection (a), the declarations of subsection (b) and the provisos of subsection (c).*

(a) UNDERSTANDINGS.—The advice and consent of the Senate is subject to the following